

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 05158 241418Z
ACTION AID-31

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 IGA-02 HEW-04 SSO-00
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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8575

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 5158

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: WHO PK

SUBJECT: CLOSING OF WHO PAKISTAN OFFICE

DEPT ALSO PASS TO DR LEE HOWARD, AID/W

REF: A) ISLAMABAD 6073, B) STATE 141864, C)STATE 147094

1. IN SERIES OF DISCUSSIONS WITH WHO SECRETARIAT, HEALTH
ATTACHE HAS BEEN GIVEN THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION CONCERNING
THE CLOSING OF THE WHO PAKISTAN OFFICE. THIS INFORMATION IS
BASED ON TELEPHONE CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN WHO EMRO DIRECTOR
TABA AND WHO ACTING DIRECTOR GENERAL FURTH AS OF JUNE 24.

2. THE WHO OFFICE IN ISLAMABAD WILL BE SHUT DOWN PERMANENTLY
SEPTEMBER 15 (NOT SEPTEMBER 30 AS REPORTED REFTEL C) WITH
THE FULL AGREEMENT OF DR N.A. SHAIKH, DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF
HEALTH, PAKISTAN (MEMBER OF WHO EXECUTIVE BOARD).

3. UNDP RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE EVERTS WILL ASSUME RESPONS-
IBILITY FOR THE ADMINISTRATIVE ASPECTS OF THE OPERATION ONLY,
ON SEPTEMBER 15.

4. ACTING WHO REPRESENTATIVE JULIAN ZULUETA, WHO IS
A MALARIA EXPERT, WILL REMAIN ON IN HIS TECHNICAL CAPACITY
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TO REINFORCE THE WHO MALARIA PROGRAM.

5. DR TABA INFORMED MR FURTH THERE IS NO FURTHER
JUSTIFICATION IN HAVING A TECHNICAL EXPERT IN MALARIA
ACTING AS A WHO REPRESENTATIVE. DR TABA FEELS THAT,
ALTHOUGH MR ZULUETA WOULD PREFER TO REMAIN AS AN ACTING
WHO REPRESENTATIVE AND TO NEGOTIATE BROADLY WITH GOP

OFFICIALS ON HEALTH MATTERS, MR ZULUETA HAS BEEN QUOTE
NEGLECTING END QUOTE HIS MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES IN
MALARIA WORK. ADDITIONALLY, DR TABA FEELS THE WHO WR
OFFICE HAS NOT BEEN QUOTE WORKING PROPERLY END QUOTE
UNDER MR ZULUETA.

6. REFERENCES IN PARA 4 OF REFTTEL C TO A REDUCTION IN
MR ZULUETAS GRADE AND SALARY ARE UNFOUNDED, ACCORDING
TO DR TABA. ALTHOUGH DR TABA FEELS MR ZULUETA IS
STIRRING UP DIFFICULTIES, DR TABA CONSIDERS HIM AN
EXPERT MALARIOLOGIST, WANTS HIM TO REMAIN ON IN PAKISTAN
IN HIS FIELD OF EXPERTISE, AND INFORMED
MR FURTH IT IS HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT MR ZULUETA HAS
SO AGREED.

7. DR TABA ALSO INFORMED MR FURTH HE HAD HAD AN INQUIRY
FROM DR LEE HOWARD, AID/W, ON THE WHOLE SUBJECT AND HAS
JUST FORWARDED A LETTER TO DR HOWARD RECAPITULATING
IN SOMEWHAT MORE DETAIL THESE FACTS.

8. HEALTH ATTACHE WAS DISCREETLY INFORMED BY THE
WHO SECRETARIAT PRIOR TO THE TELCON WITH DR TABA THAT
AN INTERNAL INSPECTION OF THE WHO WR OFFICE IN ISLAMA-
BAD SOME TIME AGO REVEALED SOME PROBLEMS BUT THAT THE
SITUATION OCCURRED PRIOR TO MR ZULUETA'S ARRIVAL.SORENSEN

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